

## **Report of the Director of Children’s Services to the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

---

**Subject:**

**W**

Educational Standards – Early Years to Key Stage 4

**Summary statement:**

Report on the attainment outcomes for the academic year 2020/21

**EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:**

This report applies to all schools in the Local Authority and all pupils who were assessed at the end of KS4 for GCSE examinations in summer 2021.

---

Marium Haque  
Director of Children’s Services

**Portfolio:**

**Education, Employment and Skills**

Report Contact: Sue Lowndes  
Assistant Director Schools  
Phone: (01274) 432623  
E-mail: [sue.lowndes@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:sue.lowndes@bradford.gov.uk)

**Overview & Scrutiny Area:**

**Children’s Services**

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is for information. It provides information on the outcomes of the assessments for summer. Only the 2021 GCSE outcomes were published due to the impact of the pandemic on education

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the summer exam series for the 2020/21 academic year was cancelled. There were no published outcomes for the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 or key stage 2. Only key stage 4 students were subject to any formative assessments.
- 2.2 For 2020/21, pupils were only assessed on the content they had been taught for each GCSE course. Schools were given flexibility to decide how to assess their pupils' performance, for example, through mock exams, class tests, and non-exam assessment already completed. GCSE grades were then determined by teachers based on the range of evidence available and they are referred to as teacher-assessed grades, or TAGs.
- 2.3 This is a different process to that of 2019/20 when pupils were awarded either a centre assessment grade (known as CAGs, based on what the school or college believed the pupil would most likely have achieved had exams gone ahead) or their calculated grade using a model developed by Ofqual - whichever was the higher of the two.
- 2.4 The changes to the way GCSE grades have been awarded over the last two years (with CAGs and Given the unprecedented change in the way GCSE results have been awarded in the summers of 2020 and 2021 and the resulting significant changes to the distribution of the grades received (in comparison to exam results), pupil level attainment in 2020/21 is not comparable to that in 2019/20 and to that of the previous exam years or the purposes of measuring changes in pupil performance.
- 2.5 **The increases seen in the headline statistics likely reflect the changed method for awarding grades rather than demonstrating a step change improvement in standards.**

## 3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 For Key Stage 4 GCSE

- **Progress 8 has not been calculated for 2020/21.**

The score was last calculated in 2018/19, at which point Bradford scored **-0.01**, a decrease of 0.01 on the 2017/18 score of 0.00

- **Attainment 8 score is 45.9**, which represents an **increase** of 0.2 points from 2019/20 (45.7), and an increase of 3.5 points from 2018/19 (42.4).

**The National Attainment 8 score is 50.9**, which is an increase of 0.7 points from

2019/20 (50.2), and a 4.1 point increase from 2018/19 (46.8).

The 2020/21 Attainment 8 score ranks Bradford in 144<sup>th</sup> position out of 150 local authorities.

- **Basics (grade 5 or above in English and Maths) is 43.1%** which is an increase of 1.2 percentage points from 2019/20 (41.9%), and an 8.5 percentage point increase from 2018/19 (34.6%).

**The National figure is 51.9%** from 49.9% in 2019/20 and 43.4% in 2018/19

This score ranks Bradford 136<sup>th</sup> position out of 150 local authorities.

- **Basics (grade 4 or above in English and Maths) is 63.4%** which is an increase of 0.6 percentage points from 2019/20 (62.8%), and increase of 8.7 percentage points from 2018/19 (54.7%).

**The National figure is 72.2%**, from 71.2% in 2019/20, and 64.9% in 2018/19.

This score ranks Bradford in 144<sup>th</sup> position out of 150 local authorities.

- **English Baccalaureate APS figure for Bradford is 3.96**, increasing from 3.94 in 2019/20 and 3.65 in 2018/19.

**The National score is 4.45**, increasing from 4.38 in 2019/20 and 4.08 in 2018/19. The gap between Bradford and the National score is 0.49, which shows a slight widening over the three years.

This score ranks Bradford 134<sup>th</sup> out of 150 local authorities.

- Female students continue to outperform their male peers in Bradford, with girls achieving an Attainment 8 score of 48.8 and boys achieving an Attainment 8 score of 43.2. Nationally girls have achieved an Attainment 8 score of 53.9 and boys a score of 48.1.

### 3.2 Bradford's Performance compared to National and Statistical Neighbours:

Statistical Neighbours	Attainment 8	National Rank	EBacc APS	National Rank	Basics 9-4	National Rank	Basics 9-5	National Rank
Blackburn with Darwen	50.7	70	4.46	60	74	52	53	61
Bolton	48.9	110	4.2	110	68.8	113	50.4	84
Oldham	46.2	140	3.86	144	65.7	133	42.9	138
Rochdale	46.2	140	3.9	141	63.6	141	40.8	147
<b>Bradford</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>136</b>
Kirklees	49.5	96	4.29	93	71	91	50	90
Sheffield	48.1	118	4.16	113	66.9	125	47.4	114
Derby	46.4	136	4.13	119	64.5	137	42.6	140
Telford and Wrekin	50.2	81	4.38	77	67.2	124	49.4	98
Walsall	47.5	124	4.02	130	65	135	44	133
Peterborough	46.3	137	3.93	138	63.5	142	41.8	143
<b>England</b>	<b>50.9</b>		<b>4.45</b>		<b>72.2</b>		<b>51.9</b>	

There will be no school level or pupil level data released.

**4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

4.1 None.

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

5.1 None.

**6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

6.1 None.

**7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

None.

**7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

None.

**7.5 TRADE UNION**

None.

**7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**7.7 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

None.

**7.8 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT**

None.

**8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1 None.

**9. OPTIONS**

9.1 This report is for information only.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 This report is for information only.

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1 None.